

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 432

By Hawk

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Jerry Odom and the Tusculum University Pioneers on winning the 2021 South Atlantic Conference Football Championship.

WHEREAS, the Pioneers of Tusculum University recently etched their names into the glorious annals of collegiate sports history by winning their first South Atlantic Conference (SAC) Football Championship since 2008; and

WHEREAS, Tusculum claimed a hard-fought victory against Lenoir-Rhyne University in the 2021 SAC Spring Football Championship game to bring home the trophy for the third time in program history; and

WHEREAS, on offense, Tusculum racked up 545 total yards and scored four touchdowns, while the defense stopped Lenoir-Rhyne on fourth down in Pioneer territory in the final minute of the game to secure the win, and the championship, by a score of 28-23; and

WHEREAS, the Pioneers thus took four-fold revenge against Lenoir-Rhyne by recording their first win over the Bears since 2011, claiming their first victory at their rival's stadium since 2008, snapping their foe's twenty-game winning streak against SAC opponents, and best of all denying their opponents' a third straight conference championship; and

WHEREAS, after losing the opening game this spring, Tusculum finished the season with four consecutive victories for the first time since 2014, with three of those victories coming on the road; and

WHEREAS, the Pioneers averaged 533.4 total yards and 37.6 points per game while destroying Mars Hill 58-20, Erskine 47-7, and Limestone 49-17 to advance to the SAC Championship tilt; and

WHEREAS, the Tusculum University Pioneers truly distinguished themselves as gridiron greats during this championship season, and they are richly deserving of our approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Coach Jerry Odom and the Tusculum University Pioneers on winning the 2021 South Atlantic Conference Football Championship and extend to these gifted athletes our best wishes for much continued success next season.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.